

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY  
Washington 25, D. C.

Room 2406 T3

Op-45/BVM  
AH16/S3-1  
Ser 1431P45  
3 September

RESTRICTED

From: President, Board of Inspection and Survey  
To: Chief of Naval Operations  
Via: Chief, Bureau of Ships

Subj: U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16); Material Inspection -  
report of

Encl: (1) Report of Material Inspection of the U.S.S.  
REPOSE (AH-16) held 28 April 1952 at Long  
Beach, California, by the Sub-Board of In-  
spection and Survey, San Diego

1. The subject vessel has been inspected in accordance with existing laws and directives and has been found fit for further service. The repairs and alterations recommended are not considered disproportionate to the value of the vessel for the service to which assigned.
2. Attention is invited to the unsatisfactory portion of Finding Nine, page II-1.
3. The text of the report indicates that the preservation of the hull structure, fittings, and auxiliaries was satisfactory. The Fourth Finding is changed accordingly.
4. The vessel was undergoing overhaul at the time of the inspection.

/s/ J. M. HIGGINS

Copy to:  
Op-43  
BuShips (w/encl)  
BuOrd (w/encl)  
ComNavShipYd, Long Beach  
InSurvPac  
ComWestSeaFron  
CinCPacFlt  
ComServPac  
ComServRon 1  
CO, USS REPOSE (AH-16)  
SubInSurv, San Diego

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY  
PACIFIC COAST SECTION  
390 Main Street  
Building 4, Room 522  
San Francisco 5, California

CA:lm  
Ser 1-337  
AH-16  
7 July 1952

From: Senior Member, Board of Inspection and Survey,  
Pacific Coast Section

To: President, Board of Inspection and Survey

Subj: Material Inspection USS REPOSE (AH-16); report of

Encl: (1) Original report of subject inspection  
conducted by SubInSurv, San Diego, 28 Apr 1952

1. The subject vessel has been inspected in accordance with existing laws and directives and has been found fit for further service. The repairs and alterations recommended are not considered disproportionate to the value of the vessel for the service to which assigned.

2. Attention is invited to the unsatisfactory finding as to cleanliness of the Supply Equipment, Facilities and Spaces, page XII-4. The food areas and preparation equipment are unsatisfactory due to below standard concepts of cleanliness and sanitation.

3. Attention is also invited to the following:

a. Quick acting doors are defective, page V-8.

b. Various plumbing fittings, and piping in hospital spaces are defective, page V-10.

4. The text of the report indicates that the preservation condition of the Hull Structure, Hull Fittings and Hull Auxiliaries is satisfactory rather than unsatisfactory, page V-1.

/s/ BURTON DAVIS

Copy to:  
SubInSurv SD

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/s/ BURTON DAVIS

Copy to:  
SubInSurv SD

NAVY SUB-BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY  
San Diego 30, California

RESTRICTED  
SECURITY INFORMATION

WTH/py  
AH-16  
5 May 1952

From: Senior Member, Sub-Board of Inspection and Survey  
San Diego  
To: President, Board of Inspection and Survey  
Via: Senior Member, Board of Inspection and Survey,  
Pacific Coast Section  
Subj: U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16); Report of Material Condition of  
Encl: (1) CWSF ltr Serial 799 dated 28 March 1952  
(2) Sub-InSurvSDiego Dispatch 011744Z May  
(3) ComServRonONE Dispatch 031656Z May

I - LOG

1. Those Members of the Sub-Board of Inspection and Survey whose signatures appear on the preceding page and who were designated by the Senior Member, Sub-Board of Inspection and Survey, San Diego, conducted the Material Inspection of the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16), in compliance with enclosure (1).
2. The Sub-Board met on board that vessel at 0900/on 28 April 1952. The vessel was moored at Pier 2 Long Beach, Naval Shipyard.
3. The Sub-Board made a careful inspection of the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) and was assisted by the Commanding Officer, Commander P. J. WILLIAMS, USNR, the heads of departments, other officers attached to the vessel and Captain J. M. WOODARD, MC, USN, of the U.S. Naval Station, Long Beach, California. Lieutenant Commander W.F. STEWART, USNR, was present during the inspection as a representative of ComServRonONE.
4. A complete list of the job orders issued for the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) was furnished the Board by the Long Beach Naval Shipyard in accordance with Art. 2016, U.S. Navy Regulations 1948.



II - FINDINGS

- First The Board finds the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) fit for further service and that the repairs and alterations herein recommended are not considered disproportionate to the value of the vessel for the service to which assigned. The U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) is a unit of Service Squadron ONE, Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.
- Second The Board finds the operations installation, equipment and spaces to be in good condition as to operation, maintenance and cleanliness.
- Third The Board finds the navigation installation, equipment and spaces to be in good condition as to operation, maintenance and cleanliness.
- Fourth The Board finds the hull structure, hull fittings and hull auxiliaries to be in satisfactory condition as to integrity of structure and mechanism, and in unsatisfactory condition as to preservation and satisfactory as to cleanliness.
- Fifth The Board finds the machinery installation, equipment and spaces to be in satisfactory condition as to operation, maintenance and cleanliness.
- Sixth The Board finds the electrical installation, equipment and spaces to be in good condition as to operation, maintenance and cleanliness.
- Seventh The Board finds the electronic installation, equipment and spaces to be in good condition as to operation, maintenance and cleanliness.
- Eighth The Board finds the damage control installation, equipment and spaces to be adequate and in satisfactory condition as to operation and maintenance.
- Ninth The Board finds the supply installation, equipment and spaces to be in satisfactory condition as to operation and maintenance and in unsatisfactory condition as to cleanliness.

RESTRICTED

AH-16 py

Tenth

The Board finds the medical equipment, facilities and spaces of the hospital in the USS REPOSE (AH-16) to be, in general, in satisfactory condition as to cleanliness, maintenance and preservation and in good condition with respect to operation except as noted in Section XIV.

Eleventh

In the opinion of the Board, no special credit or discredit attaches to the present Commanding Officer, or to any other officer now attached to the vessel, in connection with the condition and efficiency of this vessel.

III - GENERAL COMMENT

1. The U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) is a Hospital Ship with an over-all length of 520', beam 71', 11,085 tons light displacement, single screw, 9000 SHP, General Electric geared turbine drive ship, constructed by the SunShip-building and Dry Dock Company, Chester, Pennsylvania and first commissioned in the U.S. Navy on 26 May 1945.

2. a. After a brief shakedown and underway training period in Long Island Sound and Chesapeake Bay, the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) departed via Panama Canal for Pearl Harbor, T.H. The vessel was engaged in providing medical services to the Armed Forces until cessation of hostilities and continued to operate in the Western Pacific except for brief visits to the United States until 5 July 1949, at which time it returned via Pearl Harbor, T.H. to Long Beach, California, arriving on 27 July 1949. On 2 September 1949, the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) proceeded to the San Francisco Naval Shipyard, where the vessel was inactivated and assigned to the San Francisco Group, Pacific Reserve Fleet. The vessel remained in an inactive status until reactivation work was commenced in August 1950. After trials and post activation overhaul, the vessel operated by civilian personnel of the MSTs forces, departed for the Western Pacific. On 28 October 1950, the vessel was turned over to Naval personnel and recommissioned in the U.S. Navy. From that time until departing for the United States on 15 January 1952, the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) was engaged in furnishing medical services to the United Nations Forces in the Korean Area. The vessel arrived in the United States on 11 February 1952 and entered the Long Beach Naval Shipyard for regular shipyard overhaul on 15 February 1952 and remained there until day of the inspection.

b. The U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) was undergoing a regular shipyard overhaul on the day of inspection. The vessel was last drydocked from 13 to 27 March 1952 at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard. The vessel was underway 83 days and not underway 466 days since recommissioning.

c. The U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) was due for next regular shipyard overhaul commencing 15 March 1954 at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard.



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AH-16 py

3. a. The vessel had not had a previous InSurv inspection. There was no information available as to the vessel ever having suffered serious damage or derangement.

b. This vessel is a unit of Service Squadron ONE, Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

4. There were no important components of the vessel inactivated or stored ashore.

5. On day of inspection there were 85 officers and 519 enlisted men attached to the vessel. The allowance was 82 officers and 467 enlisted men. The spaces normally available for the berthing, messing, recreation and sanitary purposes of the crew, as defined in OpNav Instructions 9330.2 of 20 June 1951, had not been reduced but were not considered adequate. The vessel was satisfactorily prepared for inspection.

6. The general cleanliness of the vessel in so far as it affected material preservation was satisfactory.

7. The Board considered that the Material Readiness for War of the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16) was satisfactory.

8. BuShips rest ltr ser 517-1078 of 9 April 1952 listed the outstanding alterations applicable to the U.S.S. REPOSE (AH-16). This list was checked by the Board in compliance with CNO rest ltr Op45/L9-3 ser 1524P45 of 29 September 1950 and the following discrepancies were noted:

a. ShipAlts AH 83, 118, 120, 123, 125, 149, 152, 156, 158, 163, 165, 170, 176, 177, 178, 180, 183, 185, 187, 188, 189, 190, 197 and BuShips ltralt S61 of 9 August 1945 had been completed.

b. ShipAlt AH 200 and BuShips LtrAlt S36-3 of 17 October 1945 were applicable to this vessel and should have been included as outstanding.

III-2

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XIV - SPECIAL INSTALLATIONS FOR MEDICAL SERVICE

1. GENERAL:

a. Items Worthy of Special Note:

(1) The hospital and medical spaces on the USS REPOSE (AH-16) provided the normal capacity hospitalization of 782 patients, including 78 beds in locked wards, 68 beds in isolation wards, and no beds in quiet rooms. There were 78 toilets, 80 wash bowls, and 41 showers in the hospital spaces.

(2) The facilities provided for the care of patients in the various wards were adequate. The wards and ward equipment items were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, and in satisfactory condition as to preservation and cleanliness.

(3) The Board found the medical equipment, facilities and spaces of the hospital in the USS REPOSE to be, in general, in satisfactory condition as to cleanliness, maintenance and preservation and in good condition with respect to operation, except as noted below.

b. The Material Readiness of War of the medical equipment, facilities and spaces were satisfactory, pending the completion of repairs and alterations indicated. On termination of yard overhaul and tender availability period the above should be good.

c. Synopsis of Major Items Disclosed by Physical Inspection:

(1) Plumbing fittings were defective.

(2) Air conditioning and ventilating systems needed overhaul and cleaning.

(3) Many of the bed-pan sterilizers were inoperative due to absence of the pan holder blades and faulty valves and should be replaced (Item 14c).

(4) Locks, catches, and knobs should be replaced where they were missing or inoperative on many ward lockers and cabinets (Item 21c).

(5) Some compartments needed additional access doors (Item 99c).

(6) Hospital space decks were cracked.

(7) Details on food preparation spaces are covered in Section XII of this report.

## d. Items of Allowance:

(1) The allowance of medical and dental instruments and supplies for this class of vessel was considered adequate. Inventory of supplies and equipment on hand showed that stock was being maintained in accordance with current Bureau of Medicine and Surgery directives.

## 2. FACILITIES FOR ADMISSION TO SICK LIST:

a. Arrangements for handling admission of patients to sick list and assignment to wards were adequate.

b. Equipment provided for emergency treatment and examination was adequate. This equipment was generally in good condition as to preservation and cleanliness.

Comment: The system for mass admission of patients was excellent.

## 3. FACILITIES FOR THE SICK:

## a. Surgical operating facilities:

(1) The operating suite consisted of two major operating rooms, one sterilizing room, one ready room, one cast and splint suite, in general, was adequate for this type vessel and was in good condition as to integrity and in good condition as to cleanliness and preservation.

Comment:

(1) Operating room sterilizer heat regulator required repair beyond the capability of the ship's personnel (Item 8c).

(2) Operating lobby should be provided with acoustic overhead tile (Item 96c).

## b. Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic:

The EENT clinic consisted of one operating room, three treatment rooms, one refraction and examination room. The equipment provided was adequate. The Clinic, in general, was adequate for this type vessel and was in good condition as to preservation and cleanliness.

Comment: The records and correspondence were in proper condition and properly filed.

b. Decontamination:

This vessel had six decontamination lockers in passageways. The facilities provided were adequate with some exceptions. In general, the facilities were in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

Comment: At present, it would be necessary for radiologically or bacterially contaminated patients to pass through passageways and wards to reach a shower. The recommendation of the Medical Officer in Command regarding construction of doors directly into showers is concurred with (Item 93c).

c. Storerooms and Stowage:

The space, equipment and facilities provided for storage of medical supplies and equipment were, in general, adequate. The space and equipment provided for storage of biologicals and for poisons and narcotics were adequate. The medical storerooms were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

(1) Ideal Food Conveyor serving the S. O. Q. should be permanently secured (Item 91c).

(2) Towel racks and mirrors should be reinstalled in S. O. Q. where missing (Item 84c).

(3) Bedside locker trays should be provided where missing (Item 80c).

(4) Securing devices for iron lung should be provided (Item 12c).

(5) Storage facilities for life jackets at patients' berths should be provided (Item 90c).

(6) All first-aid equipment and "abandon ship" facilities should be stowed and secured as prescribed (Item 18c and 75c).

Comment: Sections XII and IX contain further details on stowage, supplies and damage control.

## d. Sanitation:

The following material deficiencies have adversely affected the sanitation of this vessel:

(1) The heating and cooling coils and ducts needed cleaning. Large amounts of dust and soot were injected into medical spaces and constitute a danger of infection to injured and surgical cases (Items 2c, 92c, 66c and 55c).

(2) Extensive leaks in plumbing fixtures throughout medical spaces should be repaired (Item 1c).

e. Recommendations in the vessels latest Annual Preventive Medicine Report, dated 4 January 1952 were:

(1) Replace trough type water closets, urinals and removable basins.

(2) Provide better heating, cooling and lighting facilities.

(3). Repair or replacement of dishwashing machines equipment.

f. Storage facilities for (a) inflammable liquids, (b) gas, (c) x-ray film, (d) alcohol, (e) narcotics and (f) plasma were good and according to prescribed directives.

XV - DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS



RESTRICTED  
SECURITY INFORMATION

AH 16 By

XVI - WORK LIST

BUREAU OF SHIPS (HULL)

"A" - URGENT REPAIRS RECOMMENDED:

Requested: None

By Board:

- (1c) Repair and/or replace all defective plumbing fittings in medical spaces.
- (8c) Repair operating room sterilizer heat regulator.
- (12c) Provide and install permanent securing devices for iron lung in A-1-3.
- (13c) Provide proper securing device for tube stand in X-ray room.
- (14c) Replace or repair bedpan sterilizers throughout all medical spaces.

EXCERPTS FROM LIST OF 23.

II - GENERAL COMMENT

1. The U.S.S. SANCTUARY (AH 17) is a 520' overall, 71'6" beam, 11,141 ton standard displacement, single screw, 9,000 SHP, geared turbine, hospital ship, constructed by Sun Shipbuilding Corporation at Chester, Pennsylvania, converted by Todd Shipyards Corporation at Hoboken, New Jersey and commissioned 20 June 1945.

2. a. The U.S.S. SANCTUARY (AH 17) was originally the SS MARINE OWL of the United States Merchant Marine Service. The SANCTUARY did not have any war service in World War II. The ship was at Pearl Harbor at the cessation of hostilities. Her services consisted of evacuating prisoners of war from Japan.

b. The ship commenced inactivation at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard on 5 March 1946. Inactivation work was completed and the ship was placed out of commission in reserve on 15 August 1946, in the Philadelphia Group, Atlantic Reserve Fleet. The ship was last overhauled in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard from 2 February 1951 to 26 May 1951. The last drydocking at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard from 23 March 1951 to 5 April 1951. The days underway since last major overhaul - none. Days not underway - 3166, as of 25 January 1955.

c. Prospective date of next overhaul - indefinite. Quinquennial drydocking scheduled for Fiscal Year 1957.

3. a. The ship had an InSurv Inspection in November 1950. The ship has had no serious damage or derangement since last InSurv Inspection.

b. The ship assignment is "out of commission, in reserve", a unit of Sub Group TWO, Philadelphia Group, Atlantic Reserve Fleet.

4. Not applicable.

a. This ship commenced inactivation process at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard on 5 March 1946; completed inactivation work on 15 August 1946 and decommissioned on 15 August 1946.

b. (1) The ship was divided into four (4) zones which were placed under dynamic dehumidification except for the following spaces, which were sealed and placed under static dehumidification: Dec Machinery and binnacle. Thirty-seven (37) packages average percentage of humidity 26.1%.

(2) There appears to be no lack of dehumidification in either the dynamic or static spaces.

c. The following data applies to the zones under dynamic D/H:

<u>Zone No.</u>	<u>Elapsed Time to reach 30% humidity</u>	<u>Size of Machine</u>	<u>Zone Volume</u>
1	1 month, 8 days	Kemp 55-405	383,384 cu. ft.
2	1 month, 8 days	Kemp 55-405	333,035 cu. ft.
3	1 month, 8 days	Kemp 55-405	379,956 cu. ft.
4	1 month, 8 days	Kemp 55-405	394,625 cu. ft.

Date machines secured for quinquennial overhaul - 5 March 1951. Date machines stated after quinquennial overhaul - 4 June 1951. Date of drying out after quinquennial overhaul - 16 July 1951.

d. The D/H machines now operate approximately three (3) hours per day to maintain 30% humidity.

e. There has been no marked deviation in the humidity readings.

f. The ship has been laid up in accordance with Chapter 9, BUSHIPS Manual, Op 1208 and other directives of Chief of Naval Operations and material bureaus. The ship has 0° list, and one (1) foot, six (6) inch trim by the bow.

g. The shortages of spares and equipage is considered minor. Shortage requisitions have been prepared to cover deficiencies.

h. No change in the assigned Material Readiness Index Number is recommended at this time. The industrial assistance suffix should be reviewed after completion of the tentatively scheduled overhaul and recoded accordingly. Activation check-off lists are available and posted. There is no major deficiency that would impede re-activation.

i. Not applicable

5. The ship was well prepared for inspection and Commander Sub Group TWO, Philadelphia Group assigned sufficient personnel to assist the board in the inspection.

6. The ship is considered to be satisfactory regarding cleanliness and preservation.

7. The work list submitted is considered sufficient to place the ship in a satisfactory material condition.

8. The Material Index Number (30)-(15) currently assigned the ship is considered appropriate for its present material condition.

III - FINDINGS

- First** The Board finds the U.S.S. SANCTUARY (AH 17) fit for further service, and that the repairs and alterations herein recommended are not considered disproportionate to the value of the vessel for the service to which assigned. The SANCTUARY is a unit of Sub Group TWO, Philadelphia Group, Atlantic Reserve Fleet.
- Second** The Board finds the Navigational Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in good condition with respect to cleanliness, maintenance and operating condition.
- Third** The Board finds the Operations' Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in good condition with respect to cleanliness, maintenance and operating condition.
- Fourth** The Board finds the Hull Structure, Hull Fittings, and Hull Auxiliaries to be, in general, in satisfactory condition as to cleanliness, in satisfactory condition as to preservation, and in satisfactory condition with respect to integrity of structure and mechanism.
- Fifth** The Board finds the Machinery Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in satisfactory condition.
- Sixth** The Board finds the Electrical Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in good condition.
- Seventh** The Board finds the Electronic Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in good condition.
- Eighth** The Board finds the Damage Control Installation, Equipment and Facilities to be, in general, in satisfactory condition.
- Ninth** The Board finds the Ordnance Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in satisfactory condition with respect to cleanliness, preservation and operating condition.
- Tenth** The Board finds the Medical Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in satisfactory condition.
- Eleventh** The Board finds the Supply Installation, Equipment and Spaces to be, in general, in satisfactory condition.
- Twelfth** Not applicable.
- Thirteenth** Not applicable.



XIII - MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, FACILITIES AND SPACESGeneral

1. The general overall condition of the Medical Equipment, Facilities and Spaces is satisfactory.

Medical

2. a. The Medical Spaces are located on the following decks: 03, 02, 01, Main Deck, Second Deck, First Platform and #4 Hold between Frames 56 and 146. Storerooms are located in compartments A-203-A (#1 hold); A-301-A (#2 Hold); and A-502-AT, A-503-AE, A-504-AT (#4 hold); Bilbical Stowage Reefer located in compartment A-308-AT, 3-120-1; Inflammable Stowage located in compartment C-404-AT; and Film Stowage locker located in compartment A-308-A. The arrangement and location of spaces is satisfactory and adequate.

b. The medical equipment is in satisfactory condition and in a good state of preservation. The following exceptions are noted:

Presence of arrested rust and flaking paint throughout the hospital spaces. Recommend chipping and painting. (Refer Hull Item 27c)

Loss of fluid from hydraulic lifts on the large utility sterilizers throughout the hospital spaces. Recommend that all the hydraulic lifts be refilled at time of activation. (Refer Hull Item 56c)

Rust on bottom of Autoclave in the Clinical Laboratory - no preservative applied. Recommend removal of rust and preservative be applied. (Refer Hull Item 57c)

Rust in large Autoclave in the Central Surgical Supply Room. Recommend removal of rust and preservative be applied. (Refer Hull Item 57c)

Some rubber tubing to the Dental Units appear to be deteriorating. Recommend tubing be checked prior to activation and replaced as necessary. (Refer Hull Item 51c)

Gaskets to Autoclaves in hospitals spaces are deteriorating. Recommend replacement of gaskets at time of activation. (Refer Hull Item 52c)

Air compressor in Dental Clinic. Recommend air compressor be removed and low pressure air be supplied from the ship's low pressure air system. (Refer Hull Item 59c)

Majority of the Bedpan Sterilizers in the Utility Rooms have some rust and chipping of interior around drains. Recommend removal of rust and preservative be applied. (Refer Hull Item 58c)

Rust in the Instrument Sterilizer, located in the Surgical Sterilizer Room. Recommend removal of rust and preservative applied. (Refer Hull Item 57c)

Stainless Steel straddle sink in the Dermatology Clinic no longer required. Recommend straddle sink be removed. (Refer Hull Item 53c)

Battle  
Dressing  
Stations  
and

3. Ward Dressing Rooms are utilized for this purpose and are considered adequate.

Decontamination  
Stations

Decontamination Stations not established. Provisions for establishing decontamination stations are contained in SHIPALT AH243. Recommend accomplishment of SHIPALT AH243 at time of overhaul. (Refer Hull Item 150c)

Routes to Dressing Stations (Battle Dressing Stations) and Decontamination Stations, not marked. Recommend that routes be marked in accordance with current instructions, at time of overhaul. (Ref Hull Item 54c)

Sanitary  
Condition

4. The general sanitary condition of the ship is satisfactory. There was no evidence of any rat or vermin infestation. The following exceptions were noted:

Plumbing to steam tables (water supply and drains) does not meet sanitary requirements. Recommend that plumbing be corrected to conform with specifications. Reference BUSHIPS INST 9340.9A. (Refer Hull Item 55c)

No dishwashing machine or double sink in the Captain's and Senior Medical Officer's Pantry. Recommend that a dishwashing machine be installed. (Refer Hull Item 60c)

Meat Block in Butcher Shop need resurfacing. Recommend meat block be resurfaced at time of activation. (Refer Hull Item 61c)

Water Supply lines to garbage grinder in Crew's Galley not marked. Recommend water lines be marked. (Refer Hull Item 42c)

Water supply lines to Spud or Vegetable Peeler not marked. Recommend water lines be marked and if unauthorized salt water lines are present, that they be removed. (Refer Hull Item 42c)

Storerooms  
and Stowage  
Facilities

5. The medical storerooms are considered adequate and are satisfactory as to condition and preservation. Storerooms are located as follows: in #1 Hold; Comp't A-203-A; #2 Hold: Comp't A-301-A; and #4 Holds: Compartments A-502-AT, A-503-AE, and A-504-AT.

Proper stowage is provided for inflammable liquids, gases, X-ray films, alcohol, narcotics, and blood derivatives.

BUMED-4112-tmf  
P15/EN

2 6 JUL 1955

**MEMORANDUM**

**From:** Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery  
**To:** Captain J. W. McElroy USNR  
(Former Commanding Officer, U.S.S. CONSOLATION AH-15)  
**Subj:** Navy Unit Commendation for Three Hospital Ships for Service and Duty in Korean War June 1950 to December 1954; Recommendation for  
**Ref:** (a) SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.4A of 3 June 1955

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 8 February 1955 in which you suggested that the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery might desire to resubmit the recommendation for the Navy Unit Commendation for three hospital ships for service in the Korean War. Your interest in bringing this matter to my attention is very much appreciated, and you may be assured that I am greatly interested in having proper recognition made of the service of these hospital ships.
2. The factors stated in your memorandum have been carefully considered by the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and all prior correspondence relative to these proposed awards has been reviewed. It is noted that the recommendation was first originated by letters from the Commanding Officers, U.S.S. REPOSE and U.S.S. CONSOLATION on 14 January 1952 and 23 April 1952 respectively. These were forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy by the Commander Seventh Fleet, together with all pertinent data, by letter of 4 November 1953. The Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals recommended that no award be made by letter of 5 August 1954, and this recommendation was approved by the Secretary of the Navy on 10 August 1954.
3. This Bureau is fully aware of the role played by the hospital ships during the Korean War in establishing unprecedented high standards of military medical care. These ships deserve full credit for pioneer work in developing the use of helicopters for medical evacuation. It is well known that personnel who served on the hospital ships served loyally in duty which was arduous and hazardous, but which, due to administrative factors, frequently did not qualify for the recognition accorded equivalent groups in combatant forces. However, these facts appear to have been adequately presented to the Secretary of the Navy in the original recommendation for awards to the ships, and it does not seem that they could now be construed as new evidence not available at the time this recommendation was disapproved by the Secretary of the Navy.



BUMED-4112-tmf  
P15/EN

6 JUL 1955

MEMORANDUM

Subj: Navy Unit Commendation for Three Hospital Ships for Service and  
Duty in Korean War June 1950 to December 1954; Recommendation for

4. In view of the above, and in accordance with existing instructions contained in reference (a), it is not considered feasible to resubmit the recommendation for awards to hospital ships at this time. The interest of the Bureau in obtaining these awards will continue, and I will be happy to receive any further comment or recommendation which you consider appropriate at any time.

B. W. HOGAN



BUMED-4112-tmf  
M462  
20 July 1955

Code 1

Code 4

**Navy Unit Commendation for Three Hospital Ships for Service and Duty in Korean War June 1950 to December 1954; Recommendation for**

**Ref:** (a) Captain J. W. McElroy USNR memo of 8 Feb 1955  
(b) SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.4A of 3 June 1955

**Encl:** (1) Proposed Memo to Captain J. W. McElroy USNR

1. By reference (a) it was suggested that the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery might desire to resubmit the recommendation for Navy Unit Commendation for three hospital ships for service in the Korean War. Basis for the awards was reviewed, and it was stated that the original recommendation might have been disapproved with only "cursorry" consideration due to lack of "follow-up".

2. The following quotation from paragraph 6 of reference (b) is applicable: "When a recommendation for an award for a particular act or service has been considered by the Secretary of the Navy or by properly delegated authority, it may be reconsidered only upon presentation of new, material, and relevant evidence which was not available at the time of the original recommendation".

3. Inasmuch as no new evidence, not available at time of original recommendation, has been presented, and inasmuch as the original recommendation was given full official consideration with approval of the Secretary of the Navy, it is not considered feasible to resubmit the recommendation at this time.

4. Enclosure (1) is submitted as a proposed reply to reference (a).

**T. F. COOPER**

Code 41

BUMED-4112-tmf  
M433  
30 June 1955

Code 4112

Navy Unit Commendation for Three Hospital Ships for Service Duty in Korean War June 1950 to December 1954; Comment concerning

Ref: (a) Captain J. W. McElroy USNR memo CNO Op-91H/mo of 8 Feb 1955

Encl: (1) Copy of correspondence file relative to recommendations for awards to Hospital Ships, originated 1952  
(2) SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1650.4A of 3 Jun 1955

1. In accordance with verbal request, reference (a) has been reviewed and all pertinent prior correspondence is submitted herewith as enclosure (1). This correspondence has been furnished from files of the Medals and Awards Division, Bureau of Naval Personnel (Commander F. A. Brock telephone 42313 or Miss Griffin telephone 42226).

2. Resubmission of the request for awards, as requested by reference (a), is considered to be precluded by instruction contained in paragraph 6 of enclosure (2).

B. M. SHEPARD

**BUDED-4112-tmf**

**M413**

**22 June 1955**

**Code 41**

**Code 4112**

**Navy Unit Commendation for Three Hospital Ships for Service Duty in Korean War; Recommendation for**

- Ref:**
- (a) CNO Op-211 conference with BuMed Liaison Officer (Op-403F) of 21 June 1955**
  - (b) Captain John W. McKelroy 1108/66931 USNR ltr Op-29-294 F15/JWM:fa of 24 June 1953**
  - (c) COM 7th Flt ltr Ser 1942 of 4 Nov 1953**

**1. Information furnished by reference (a) indicates that the subject recommendation contained in reference (b) was forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy as enclosure to reference (c). The recommendation was disapproved by the Navy Board of Decorations and Medals on 5 August 1954, with concurrence of the Secretary of the Navy on 11 August 1954.**

**B. M. SHEPARD**



## c. X-ray Service:

The x-ray department consisted of two radiographic rooms, one fluoroscopy room and one x-ray therapy room. All high tension equipment was shockproof. The equipment and facilities of the x-ray were adequate for this type vessel and was, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

Comment: It was believed that due to the lack of a device to secure the top of the tube stand, there was a possibility the unit may suffer damage in heavy weather (Item 13c).

## d. Genito-urinary service:

The genito-urinary service consisted of one cystoscopic room and one treatment room. All high tension equipment was shockproof. The facilities of the genito urinary service were adequate for this class vessel and were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

## e. Laboratory service:

The laboratory consisted of one room for bacteriological and blood serology tests. The space and equipment was adequate for this class vessel and was in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

## f. Neuropsychiatric service:

This service was equipped to care for 78 patients in locked wards and 5 patients in single rooms (restraint). The space and equipment of this service was adequate for this class vessel and was, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

## g. Physio-therapy and electro-therapy department:

This department was equipped with five treatment booths in one treatment room. All electric equipment was properly grounded and required safety features were installed. The space and equipment was adequate for this class vessel and was, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.



h. Electrocardiograph and basal metabolism testing installation:

The space, equipment and facilities for properly conducting the above tests were adequate. The equipment was in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

i. Pharmacy:

The space, equipment and facilities of the pharmacy were adequate for this class vessel and were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

j. Special diet kitchen:

The space, equipment and facilities of the special diet kitchen were adequate for this class vessel and were, in general, in good condition as to integrity and preservation and in satisfactory condition as to cleanliness.

Comment: Diet pantry sterilizer should be repaired (Item 65c).

4. DENTAL FACILITIES:

a. Dental Operations:

The space, equipment and facilities provided for dental treatment were adequate for this class vessel and were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

b. Prosthetic Operation:

The space, equipment and facilities provided for dental prosthesis were adequate and were, in general, in good condition as to integrity, preservation and cleanliness.

Comment: Cannopy over work bench in the prosthetic laboratory should be modified (Item 56c).

5. AUXILIARY MEDICAL FACILITIES:

a. Medical Administration and Records:

The space, equipment and facilities provided for medical administration and record work were adequate for this class vessel and were, in general, in good condition as to preservation and cleanliness.